

November 1, 2000

I urge my colleagues to support balanced measures that promote peace and stability during this dire time in the Middle East.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2000

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, it was necessary for me to be in my district yesterday to meet a long-standing obligation. Consequently, I was unable to be present for rollcall No. 584 and rollcall No. 585. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" in both cases.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ELECTRONIC MARKETPLACE OWNERSHIP DISCLOSURE ACT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2000

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, today I introduced the Electronic Marketplace Ownership Disclosure Act.

The intent of this legislation is to increase the information available to businesses and consumers who conduct commerce on the Internet.

The Internet has transformed the economy, increasing efficiencies and allowing commercial transactions to take place on a global scale never before contemplated. Increasingly, Internet commerce websites serve as neutral third-party platforms that match buyers with sellers.

The value of these sites, whether they serve as marketplaces for financial services products or airline tickets, is their neutrality and convenience. Industry and consumers can be confident that they are receiving the best possible prices based on the fact the Internet platform over which they are conducting business does not have an interest in the transaction.

The Electronic Marketplace Ownership Disclosure Act is intended to prevent the creation of sites that appear to be neutral third-parties but are actually owned by business interests that take part in the transactions conducted on the site.

This legislation requires the proprietors of Internet commerce websites to disclose, on

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the site, the extent to which an Internet marketplace's controlling equity holders plan to become trading participants on the site. It also requires Internet commerce websites to disclose the identity of their corporate parents.

As a member of the Banking Committee, I believe businesses and consumers have the right to know when they conduct a foreign currency exchange on an Internet commerce site, that the proprietors of the site are participating in the transaction. The global, amorphous nature of the Internet is its great strength. This legislation only seeks to increase public confidence in it as a tool for commerce.

I am an ardent believer in government taking a hands off approach to Internet commerce. This legislation merely requires disclosure and is not intended to create a burden on Internet companies. I look forward to comments on this legislation and will introduce it again next year.

CONGRATULATING THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF SANTA BARBARA FOR 75 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2000

Mr. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I honor the Junior League of Santa Barbara for 75 years of service to the community of Santa Barbara. I have had the privilege of working with the Junior League for several years and know of the impact the League has had on countless children and young people.

The Junior League of Santa Barbara was founded and admitted to the Association of Junior Leagues on January 2, 1925. The Santa Barbara League's first program included a camp for underprivileged children and a program that saved many children from tuberculosis. In 1948, the Volunteer Bureau was organized as a clearinghouse for volunteers for civil, cultural and education agencies, and in 1957, the Welfare Council was established with the Junior League's assistance to improve health, recreation, and welfare of Santa Barbara County. During the 1960's the Junior League provided funds to the Fellowship House, the Goleta Boys and Girls Clubs, Head Start, the January 28th Committee, and the educational facility at the Child's Estate. The League was reorganized in 1971 and began a number of new projects, including a matinee concert series with the Santa Barbara Sym-

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phony, a workshop for elementary school teachers in environmental education, and the Courthouse Tours program.

In the early 1980's the League began the Alcohol Abuse and Youth Project, donated funds toward the renovation of the CALM house, and began the Hospice Volunteer management project, followed by projects on foster care and alcohol abuse prevention, and community advocates for quality child care. Through its Public Affairs Committee, the League focused on crime prevention in 1985, and worked with local law enforcement entities and nonprofits such as Shelter Services for Women, and later began several new projects, including Anger Management, Volunteer Support for Senior Services, Friday Night Live Safe Rides, and the Literacy Support Project. In the early 1990's the Junior League began the Teenage Pregnancy and Parenting Project, made a substantial donation to the Red Cross for victims of the Painted Cave Fire, and initiated the Valued Youth Partnership program, participated in the Sexual Abuse Response Team Coalition, and started the Peace Education Project. In the late 1990's, the League partnered with the Blood Bank, the Storyteller Preschool for homeless children and began the Community Health Collaborative Project focusing on a Pediatric Enrichment Project including STARBRIGHT World and Well Gowns.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is organizations like the Junior League that serve as an example of dedication and commitment to those in need for our community and the nation. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring and commending the Junior League of Santa Barbara on the League's 75th anniversary.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CAROLYN C. KILPATRICK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2000

Ms. KILPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, due to a death in the family, I was unable to vote on the floor today. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on H. Res. 665 (rollcall No. 589), "aye" on the motion to instruct offered by Mr. HOLT (rollcall No. 590), and "aye" on the motion to instruct offered by Mr. WU (rollcall No. 591).